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ABSTRACT

This comprehensive, 300-item bibliography on the cloze procedure lists a significant proportion of the cloze literature. It is comprised of books, articles, and papers in which there is at least a substantial and/or significant cloze component. The references are arranged in alphabetical order by authors. Those citations that have been published outside of the United States have been noted with an asterisk. Where possible, references to "Dissertation Abstracts" for doctoral dissertations using the cloze procedure are included. (WR)

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A COMPREHENSIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE CLOZE PROCEDURE

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INTRODUCTION

The cloze procedure, introduced by Taylor (1953), has been described as "...one of the most promising techniques to emerge in recent years for measuring comprehension and reading difficulty." (Anderson, 1971, p. 181). Klare (in Groff, 1971) believes it to be "... clearly one of the most, if not the most, convenient and widely applicable techniques ever suggested for studying text." (p.677)

The procedure involves the mutilation of passages of prose by the deletion of words, usually on a mechanical n^{th} word basis. Taylor defined the cloze as a "method of intercepting a message from a 'transmitter' (writer or speaker), mutilating its language patterns by deleting parts, and so administering it to 'receivers' (readers and listeners) that their attempts to make patterns whole again potentially yielded a considerable number of cloze units."(1953, p.416)

Introduced as a new tool for measuring readability, the procedure has been extended into a number of related, and not so closely related, areas. The uses of the cloze now include:

a. as a measure of reading comprehension;
b. as a measure of the readability of prose;
c. as a measure of the ability to use context clues and to understand syntax position of words in sentences;
d. as a means of allowing investigators to use the language of individuals to show characteristics of certain physical and personality disorders;

e. as a device for teaching reading comprehension;
f. as a tool in the teaching of English as a second language; and
g. as a device in measuring comprehension of oral comprehension.

Useful reviews of the cloze literature have been made by Bormuth (1968), Bickley, Ellington and Bickley (1970), Fram (1972), Jongsma (1971), Klare, Sinaiko and Stolurow (1972) and Potter (1968).

The following comprehensive bibliography lists a significant proportion of the cloze literature, and is offered as a useful starting point for those contemplating research using this very convenient technique. It is comprised of books, articles and papers in which there is at least a substantial and/or significant cloze component. The references have been arranged simply in alphabetical order of authors. Although this is not very convenient it was found difficult to attempt any rational categorization without a great deal of repetition.

Those articles, papers, etc. that have been published outside the United States of America have been noted with an asterisk. Where possible I have tried to include references to Dissertation Abstracts for doctoral dissertations using the cloze but this has not always been possible. Material published in ERIC Research in Education has posed some problems. Where the date of original publication differs from its year of publication in Research in Education the original year of publication has been placed in brackets before the microfiche number.

This is a revised and up-dated version of the Bibliography of the Cloze Procedure I published in March, 1973.

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